

Subject: Re: [FWD: RE: security light emergency [vandalism will happen if the lights aren't fixed] update]
From: Lorena Parker <lparker@sanpedrobid.com>
Date: 05/10/2017 08:11 AM
To: Michael Gatanz <Michael@PeoplesPlaceSP.com>
CC: Andy Pham <apham@sanpedrobid.com>, Joe Pielago <jpielago@sanpedrobid.com>, Eric Eisenberg <ericeoban@gmail.com>, Jan Kain <jan@peoplesplacesp.com>
BCC: lparker@sanpedrobid.com

Michael,
It looks like they installed some of the lights but they missed the middle of the alley.

I have brought this to their attention and have requested the lights for the two poles they missed.

I assure you that we are in contact with them daily.

I have a meeting this morning but I will be in this afternoon for a few hours.

Meanwhile the job is complete I sent security over to speak with Jan. They can come by each night until all the lights are installed.

Best regards,
Lorena

On May 10, 2017, at 3:03 AM, Michael Gatanz <Michael@PeoplesPlaceSP.com> wrote:

Andy; Joe; Eric > in response to the email below [PLEASE SEE it; it is URGENT] i received an 'out-of-office' auto-response from Lorena's email [I'm assuming it's probably a much needed vacation or biz-trip]

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE Help on this
-- if PBID cannot take care of it, can you please request help from CD-15

Thanks much for any help you can provide

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: security light emergency [vandalism will happen if the lights aren't fixed] update
From: "Michael Gatanz" <Michael@PeoplesPlaceSP.com>
Date: Wed, May 10, 2017 2:48 am
To: "Jan Kain" <jan@peoplesyogahealthdance.com>, "Lorena Parker" <lparker@sanpedrobid.com>
Cc: "Eric Eisenberg" <ericeoban@gmail.com>, "Peoples gmail front-desk-gmail" <peoplesyogahealthdance@gmail.com>, "Jan Kain"

<jan@peoplesplacesp.com>, "Tony" <toeknee37@outlook.com>, "Vanessa Pina" <nesa323@gmail.com>, "Alexis Cox" <coxalex224@gmail.com>

Hi Lorena: Thanks for response and working on it. I have some concerns about this situation:

1] CD-15 is not helping you on this? Just leaving you all alone with this security-problem situation? Like CD-15 has no clout with the city?

2] Can you please share with us how this situation developed. Did pbid or someone else request something or communicate with them about something? Or did dwp just remove the lights with no communications?

3] Since, as best i can tell, no communications or notice or anything was sent to property owners or tenants most impacted by the situation, I'm now having to 'theorize' and see if can try to figure out 'what's going on'.

a] Perhaps they are 'removing' the lights. That of course would be a major problem.

b] Perhaps they are changing to low-intensity lights: That would be serious problem for us. The high-intensity lights have been there for several years now - and NO PROBLEMS with them. And lot of GOOD THINGS with them.

-- The middle of the alley is not a 'walking street'; it was and remains a security-risk area. And someone with no business in the alley after dark has no business being in the alley. And those who want to walk their dogs, or go to their cars in the lot, or leave a business by the back door, ..., should all feel SAFE. And dim-lighting is not feel-safe lighting. This alley has many hiding places and is easy for lurkers. Those who are legitimately in the alley should have high-visibility lighting so they can see what is going on. Instead of having to deal with dim-light that creates shadows and uncertainties and limited vision.

-- We have been wanting for a long time to install security video cameras in the back. We have so far not been able to do sufficient research to understand what to get: but mostly it all seems to be still very expensive to get something useful. I had recently started to do research on that issue again. People are now saying things like 'it's not expensive'; but then when i asked at Office Depot what a beginner system would be, they took me to their multi-hundred dollar starter system.

-- My impression is that the high-intensity lights are needed to make useful video actually 'useful'; and that low-light would make it rather useless and futile and not worth the cost of security camera system.

BTW: a workshop that could be done by PBID and Chamber that would actually be more useful than most would be workshop [not a vendor seeking to sell] on > How to learn about Video Security for your business property <

4] Damage tally so far: Apart from the increased littering and dumping due to the now very dark alley, the physical damage so far seems to be Norman's dumpster.

At the same time, the prowlers are beginning to be a bit more assertive again > the Siren's alcove; the Thrift Store dumpster (which they leave open for scavengers); the parking lot next to Siren's; the back side fenced area of Crimsin;

the other unlighted out-of-view areas in the alley, including our parking lot.

Thanks for help on this Lorena. As you can see my concern and anxiety increases daily; including dread at seeing in daylight what happened in the night in the alley.

PBID Security has already been excellent in the help in the alley. It is due to them that the alley had finally reached a point of being almost ok [what an irony: just as the alley was almost recovered, the key security features got removed].

PBID Security has only limited hours and they do all they can during those hours. But most of the vandalism and problems in the alley occurred and are most likely to occur during the hours they are not there.

Thanks again Lorena.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: security light emergency [vandalism will happen if the lights aren't fixed] \ update

From: Jan Kain <jan@peoplesyogahealthdance.com>

Date: Tue, May 09, 2017 12:47 pm

To: Lorena Parker <lparker@sanpedrobid.com>

Cc: Michael Gatanz <Michael@peoplesplacesp.com>, Eric Eisenberg

<ericeoban@gmail.com>, Peoples gmail front-desk-gmail

<peoplesyogahealthdance@gmail.com>, Jan Kain

<jan@peoplesplacesp.com>,

Tony <toeknee37@outlook.com>, Vanessa Pina <nesa323@gmail.com>, Alexis

Cox <coxalex224@gmail.com>

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2017, at 12:05 PM, Lorena Parker <lparker@sanpedrobid.com> wrote:

Michael,

I am working DAILY to try and get an update on the new light installation. I call and email them daily.

Meanwhile, I have directed security to be more vigilant in the alley patrols.

As soon as I get some information, I will let you know.

Best regards,

Lorena Parker
Executive Director
San Pedro Property Owners' Alliance

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On Mon, May 8, 2017 at 10:29 PM, Michael Gatanz

<Michael@peoplesplacesp.com> wrote:

Hi Lorena: Update on the alley situation. Even prior to 10 pm this evening > One of the PBID Security people [Foreman] and I happened be checking the alley at the same time. We both saw a guy [one of the very persistent ones] climb out of the Thrift Store dumpster and start putting back into it some of the trash he had thrown out of it while inside of it.

Foreman told me that he told the guy to put it all back in and leave the alley. We then left before he did.
About 15 minutes later we both happened to check the alley again.

And this time > the dumpster behind Norman's had a bunch of paper-litter in front of > and the top lid on the left hand side was smashed down into the dumpster. So the guy, whom both Foreman and I have seen in the alley many times, had jumped up on the lid and used his weight to slam the lid down into the dumpster.

It might cost Norman's some money to get the dumpster fixed or replaced. I'm guessing the lid is broken and no longer usable. Since Norman's closes and opens during daylight hours, they are most likely unaware of the damage associated with the removal of the lights.

If their dumpster is removed for replacement they will have to go through the extra process that they have done of welding-bolting their combination lock to the new dumpster, after first unwelding-un-bolting it from the present, now probably-unusable dumpster. Meanwhile they will have to remove the lock and leave the dumpster open until the trash service picks it up.

Removal of the security lights continues to be a growing problem for the security of the alley.

I'm hoping you have some influence with DWP to so that the bright lights get replaced before more damage, vandalism, dumping, and worse occurs.

Thanks for any help you can provide with this.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: security light emergency [vandalism will happen if the lights aren't fixed]

From: "Michael Gatanz" <Michael@PeoplesPlaceSP.com>

Date: Mon, May 08, 2017 2:52 am
To: "Jan Kain" <jan@peoplesyogahealthdance.com>, "Lorena Parker" <lparker@sanpedrobid.com>
Cc: "Eric Eisenberg" <ericeoban@gmail.com>, "Peoples gmail front-desk-gmail" <peoplesyogahealthdance@gmail.com>, "Jan Kain" <jan@peoplesplacesp.com>, "Tony" <toeknee37@outlook.com>, "Vanessa Pina" <nesa323@gmail.com>, "Alexis Cox" <coxalex224@gmail.com>

Hi Lorena: The situation in the alley without the lights is gradually getting worse again. It is totally dark back there after dark. More vagrants, more trash, more scavenging, more dumping [the trash pile (probably a contractor-dump) across the alley behind Sirens back alcove has been there for a few days now], more people just sauntering down the alley, more fast-bike-riding opportunists,

Since they have not been re-installed I'm now wondering what triggered that action in the first place? Did PBID or someone else request taking them down? Or request making them dim lights? Are they actually really going to be re-installed? Or is there some discussion of something that is taking place in the background? As best i can tell there was no notice to property owners or business owners. The lights have now been gone, simply uninstalled, for a week or more now.

This is, and always has been a security issue. And yet it's being treated like a walk in the park? Is that just a government thing, or is something else going on?

Irony in relation to this: Until the lights went missing i had recently been saying at meetings, like the Business Committee meeting, that our alley had become the best it ever has been in the last 7+ years. And then the lights get removed. And not re-installed. And the long time that it is taking now has me be concerned and questioning, as above, like, 'what's "really" going on here? They do not care about security?

Note: Prior to the lights being removed, the one remaining problem in the middle part of the alley is Siren's alcove. It's a very convenient sleeping place for those who want. PBID Security does a very good job with it; but it's too much for them.

I know it would not necessarily be fair to ask Sirens to put a gate on the welcoming space; since they don't use the back alley they could see it as not really their problem.

But i'm wondering if they might be willing to put a gate on

that hiding place if some funding for it could be found. I don't have a source of funding in mind at this time [and i know it would not be PBID]. But first step would be to determine 'if' they would be willing to put a gate on it; and if so, how much funding would be needed.

This is very important to us at People's Place: Jan leaves the building after dark (since our classes run after dark), and since that alcove is so dark and so hidden, she never knows if there is someone in there or not. It is a very creepy situation (even when the bright alley lights were working). We also for events and classes have other teachers and guests park in our lot, and they HATE it; a year ago after Alina's car got vandalized twice (both times prior to 9:30 pm) she refused to park in back any more. And that vandalism occurred while the lights were installed and working.

Every day those security lights are not there; the whole alley is much less secure.

Since you knew what LADWP was doing, i'm assuming that you requested something or that they told you what they were planning. I called them, twice, and had long conversations and they played dumb both times; as if they did not even know the lights were missing. Now i'm wondering why was that.

So I'm asking for your help on this.
It is a worrisome situation every day now.

Thank you.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: security light emergency [vandalism will happen if the lights aren't fixed]

From: Jan Kain <jan@peoplesyogahealthdance.com>

Date: Thu, May 04, 2017 10:51 am

To: Lorena Parker <lparker@sanpedrobid.com>

Cc: Michael Gatanz <Michael@peoplesplacesp.com>, Eric Eisenberg <ericeoban@gmail.com>, Peoples gmail front-desk-gmail <peoplesyogahealthdance@gmail.com>, Jan Kain <jan@peoplesplacesp.com>, Tony <toeknee37@outlook.com>, Vanessa Pina <nesa323@gmail.com>, Alexis Cox <coxalex224@gmail.com>

Lorena,

Thank you for answering. It is a very dangerous situation. I feel very threatened when I go to my car now. I hope it gets resolved quickly.

Jan

Sent from my iPhone

On May 4, 2017, at 8:06 AM, Lorena Parker <lparker@sanpedrobid.com> wrote:

Michael,

LADWP is supposed to be changing out the lights. It would have been more efficient to do that all at once.

I will find out when they plan on installing the new lights.

Thanks for letting me know.

Best regards,

Lorena Parker
Executive Director
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On Thu, May 4, 2017 at 7:35 AM, Michael Gatanz <Michael@peoplesplacesp.com> wrote:

Hi Lorena:

The security lights behind 355 W 6th St [the pole on the downhill side of People's parking lot]

AND the the one down the alley [approximately behind Brewco] are GONE.

- They are not just 'out' but [it appears to me that] the fixtures are removed.

IF the fixtures are gone [and it appears that they are] it would be either intentional removal by dwp or theft.

Before those lights were put up a few years ago vandalism was very common in the alley [car windows smashed in among other things].

In the last few months the alley has become the best it has ever been - that is because Theo in particular of PBID security has been doing an extremely good job of reducing the security risks in the alley [the primary problem left now is that Siren's back alcove (cubby/hiding-place) is a favorite place for a few to hide in (pulling the dumpster across the alcove to secret themselves).

Without those lights the alley is very dark and will quickly return to opportunistic prowling and theft and vandalism.

Every night that goes by without those lights replaced will be high risk for property damage -- and some risk (and certainly some level of fear) for those who leave the buildings in the dark area after dark.

I consider this a security emergency.

Thanks for any help you can provide with this situation.